THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) There are various procedural requirements, in addition to customs tariffs, imposed by all countries on international trade. Some times these procedural requirements act as barriers and are called non-tariff barriers. Indian exporters face such barriers from time to time in several countries including the developed countries such as the European Union, United States of America and Japan.

The problem arising due to non-tariff barriers are duly taken up with the concerned country bilaterally for their early and mutually satisfactory resolution. The various fora of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) are also used to address these issues.

Industrial units in the country

†4368. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of industrial units functioning in the country particularly in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of sick industrial units out of the same and the reasons for their sickness;

(c) whether Government are formulating any scheme to revive such sick industrial units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The total number of Letters of Intent/Direct Industrial Licences issued and Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda (IEMs) field in the country from August, 1991 to March, 2005 are 6,885. Of these 5,402 are from Uttar Pradesh.

(b) According to the information contained in the Report of the Reserve Bank of India on Review of Sick/Weak Industrial Units Financed by Scheduled Commercial Banks, at the end of March 2003 there were 2,999 sick and 397 weak units. Of these, 208 units were in Uttar Pradesh. Reasons for industrial sickness *inter-alia* include internal factors such as

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

deficiencies in project appraisal and project management as well as external factors such as non-availability of raw materials, power shortage, financial bottlenecks, increase in overhead cost, etc.

(c) and (d) Besides providing a policy regime that facilitates and fosters growth and development of industry, steps undertaken by the Government for revival of sick industrial units *inter-alia* include setting up of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, issue of guidelines by the Reserve Bank of India to banks for financial support and amalgamation of sick units with healthy units. Rehabilitation schemes *inter-alia* include restructuring of the capital, relief and concessions by Financial Institution/ Banks/Government by rescheduling of dues, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, Government assistance for public sector units, merger with other companies and change of management.

Growth trends of leather industry

4369. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our leather industry is on the up-swing and has moved on to a positive territory by achieving a good growth in dollar terms;

(b) if so, what are its growth trends and which are its international markets; and

(c) the kinds of incentives Government propose to give to this industry to help it further expand its business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The indutry has seen a growth of more than 10% in U.S. dollars terms in the last two financial years. Leather and leather products are exported mainly to Germany, USA, Italy, UK, Hong Kong and Spain.

(c) The Government proposes to extend certain duty concessions and assist in certain promotional measures like brand promotion and creation of quality awareness, modernization and upgradation of laboratories and meeting legal expenses on trade related matters.